Statement On The FTC Oversight Hearing

Washington, DC — Internet Association President and CEO Michael Beckerman issued the following statement on the House Energy & Commerce Committee Subcommittee on Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection hearing on Federal Trade Commission (FTC) oversight:

"The many benefits of the internet can be seen in every aspect of our society and economy – by consumers, business, and government alike – in ways that were unimaginable even 5 years ago. Internet Association is committed to having a discussion with Congress and the FTC about the current regulatory framework.

"The U.S. is home to some of the most successful internet companies that are global leaders in the technology industry. A key to America's success in building a vibrant internet ecosystem is an approach to regulation and enforcement that focuses on practices that materially harm consumers, with a clear view of benefits. The internet economy, as a result, is characterized by low barriers to entry, companies that focus on innovation and delivering value to consumers, and fierce competition that's just a click away. It's important that both policymakers and regulators keep in mind the important economic and national security benefits of having internet companies founded and based here in the U.S. as they export their products and services around the world.

"Core to the mission of Internet Association and our members is empowering people through a free and open internet. We encourage the FTC to keep the overwhelming benefits to consumers in mind as they seek to examine aspects of the internet industry."